

20001210.qrp v02_n032.qrl.20001210

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 19:03:10 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2032

QRP-L Digest 2032

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [85923] Email simplification & them pesky spam nasties &c
by Nils B Young <rantinen@juno.com>
- 2) [85924] Inductors
by NM5Mike@aol.com
- 3) [85925] Re: ARS Sojourner K1 Review - Comments
by Russ Carpenter <russ@natworld.com>
- 4) [85926] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
by NB6M@aol.com
- 5) [85927] Re: Inductors
by NB6M@aol.com
- 6) [85928]
by Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
- 7) [85929] Part needed
by "Marty N5NW" <n5nw@midsouth.rr.com>
- 8) [85930] inductor help.. Thanks
by NM5Mike@aol.com
- 9) [85931] Re: Need Nevada?
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 10) [85932] Pocket PC
by hgruen@pacifier.com (Huston Gruen)
- 11) [85933] 4:1 balun.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 12) [85934] Official Warbler Kit Shipping List
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 13) [85935] Re: [Elecraft] Paddle recommendations
by igeq100@iupui.edu
- 14) [85936] FOX HISTORY- The 1994/1995 Foxhunt - Complete Logs!
by Kevin Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>
- 15) [85937] Noise Generator Application
by Monty N5FC <n5fc@io.com>
- 16) [85938] Update on the NC 20
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 17) [85939] RE:RE: [Elecraft] ARS Sojourner K1 Review - Comments
by DL2FI@t-online.de (Peter Zenker)
- 18) [85940] QRP-L member??
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 19) [85941] AT in PA Alert 12/10/00 Update

- by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 20) [85942] DK9SQ end cap
by "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
- 21) [85943] HB:minicircuits labs
by "w8diz" <w8diz@cinci.rr.com>
- 22) [85944] Re: QRP-L member??
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 23) [85945] Re: 4:1 balun.
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 24) [85946] Kinda QRP
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 25) [85947] RE: [Elecraft] Bad Eyes - need magnifying suggestion.....
by baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com
- 26) [85948] QRP atop Eiger Mountain in Swiss Alps
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
- 27) [85949] Re: QRP atop Eiger Mountain in Swiss Alps
by K5BDZ@aol.com
- 28) [85950] Re: [Elecraft] Paddle recommendations
by "William K. Harding" <k4ahk@ix.netcom.com>
- 29) [85951] Re: [Elecraft] Bad Eyes - need magnifying suggestion.....
by Bob W7AVK <rsrolfne@atnet.net>
- 30) [85952] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
by Lew Paceley <lew@paceley.com>
- 31) [85953] Re: Kinda QRP
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 32) [85954] Need homebrew data.
by "A Turner" <aturner13@triad.rr.com>
- 33) [85955] Re: 10 meter contest
by "kw3u@warwick.net" <kw3u@warwick.net>
- 34) [85956] Re: Magnifier
by wb2vuo@juno.com
- 35) [85957] QRP to Me
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 36) [85958] Re: Need homebrew data.
by "Jim Kortge, K8IQY" <jokortge@prodigy.net>
- 37) [85959] this ain't no way to talk - I wlt get off this list!
by "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
- 38) [85960] RE: 4:1 balun.
by "Tracy" <tracy@bytemark.com>
- 39) [85961] FS
by n2go@arrl.net
- 40) [85962] re: magnifiers
by neil <neil@aade.com>
- 41) [85963] Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
by "Tom" <tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us>
- 42) [85964] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 43) [85965] WB3AAL on the AT

- by Craig LaBarge <LaBarge_C@compuserve.com>
- 44) [85966] Re: this ain't no way to talk - I wlt get off this list!
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 45) [85967] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
- 46) [85968] RE: WB3AAL on the AT
by "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>
- 47) [85969] Re: Kinda QRP followup
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 48) [85970] Matching Crystals [was homebrew data needed]
by "Chuck Adams, K7Q0" <k7qo@primenet.com>
- 49) [85971] Revised, updated and eroor correction copy of LOG#14
by Don Minkoff <cowchip@mediaone.net>
- 50) [85972] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 51) [85973] Winter SSB Contest award (QRP ARCI)
by jmarran@juno.com
- 52) [85974] Re: Pocket PC
by hgruen@pacifier.com (Huston Gruen)
- 53) [85975] Re: FOX HISTORY- The 1994/1995 Foxhunt - Complete Logs!
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 54) [85976] psk/flexible digital mode interface
by n2go@arrl.net
- 55) [85977] Re: Need homebrew data.
by "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
- 56) [85978] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
- 57) [85979] 10 Meter Contest
by "Mike Duke" <k5xu@concentric.net>
- 58) [85980] HW-9 value ??
by Duffer <hduff@ica.net>
- 59) [85981] Re: 4:1 balun.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 60) [85982] Re: 10 Meter Contest
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 61) [85983] FOX: Operation by N9AW on Tuesday, 12/12/2000
by "Jerry Scherkenbach" <jerrys@execpc.com>
- 62) [85984] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
by Drbob92031@aol.com
- 63) [85985] Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 64) [85986] Cap Bearing De-greasing
by Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@gci-net.com>
- 65) [85987] Re: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
by "pschweitzer" <pschweitzer@netzero.net>
-

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 00:33:59 +0000
From: Nils B Young <rantinen@juno.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85923] Email simplification & them pesky spam nasties &c
Message-ID: <20001210.003424.-449775.1.rantinen@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Hope yer havin' fun on 10m. I'd be there but I got side tracked today with my web page construction project (the dagnab thing just keeps gettin' bigger and bigger . . . When will it ever end?) But during that process & in the process of checkin' me email on the old account, it occured to me that (a) I get weird mail in the Snail now, so obviously somebody's spammed my house address and (b) it looks like I may as well go back to usin' the old email address, since one way or the other I'm gettin' weird enough stuff as it is.

Then . . . I reshuffled the rigs and got the two small boxes to lay up next to each other nice. And that of course made me have to remake about half a dozen cables (RF & switching for the amp), which was interesting enough. So if I were cool I'd try the new deal on the 10m contest. Well, I tried that & discovered that phone or CW I ain't gettin' no respect.

That's why I went to fixin' up the next generation of the radio pages . . .

Found a site the other day with a recording of the WWV announcement when the solar flux went up over 300 back in 1989. Man, what a trip. Or was that '98. Either way I think it was the time we had auroras three or four days in a row. One in the afternoon that everyone saw but me.

Stupid timing.

73

Nils

. . . which is another way of saying that I'll desub from this address & go back to the old one . . .

Nils R. B. Young -- El Gringo Errante -- W8IJN -- The Tagalong Press
<http://www6.50megs.com/w8ijn> -- <http://members.fortunecity.com/nilsbull>
"In MY day you had to FIGHT to have finals! Every DAY was a STRUGGLE!"
Comrade Nikolai

Sergeiovich McTovarishov

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 20:01:17 EST
From: NM5Mike@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)
Subject: [85924] Inductors
Message-ID: <73.93d77d2.27642fdd@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have several inductors that have colored bands that indicate what the component value is. Can someone share with me the color code used for inductors ?

Regards,

Eric NM5M

Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2000 17:26:01 -0800
From: Russ Carpenter <russ@natworld.com>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85925] Re: ARS Sojourner K1 Review - Comments
Message-ID: <B6581BA9.6235%russ@natworld.com>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Dear Eric,

Your response to our review of the K-1 was superb. Lively, intelligent, and an articulate presentation of a viewpoint that varied a little from our own. This is exactly the kind of dialogue Richard Fisher, KI6SN, and I hope to stimulate with the ARS Sojourner. We eagerly look forward to publishing your thoughts in the January issue of the Sojourner.

Russ, AA7QU

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 21:07:23 EST
From: NB6M@aol.com
To: ac7a@gci-net.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85926] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
Message-ID: <13.e767325.27643f5b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

One way would be to use "Brake Cleaner" aerosol spray. Great degreaser. That is, if you have the cap out by itself, hi. The spray is available at auto parts stores, and is used for cleaning brake disks.

Wayne NB6M

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 21:16:19 EST
From: NB6M@aol.com
To: NM5Mike@aol.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85927] Re: Inductors
Message-ID: <95.4201e12.27644173@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The following is copied from a recent post to the list. Hope it helps.

72

Wayne NB6M

The color code is the same as is used for resistors. The 2 dots on top are the significant figures, one of the end dots is the multiplier, and the other is the tolerance. They are usually available only in the standard values, so it's usually easy to tell which end is which.

For example, 56 is a standard value, but 65 is not, so read the dots green, blue, then the end next to the blue is the multiplier.

Sometimes, though, there's some ambiguity. If, for instance, you have 2 red dots on top, a silver dot on one end, and a gold dot on the other, that could be a 0.22uH 5% choke or a 2.2uH 10% choke.

Since the ones you have came from a VCR, they are probably 10% (cheaper than 5%) parts. Consumer electronics never uses a precision part when a less expensive one will do.

If all of the chokes you rescued have silver dots, you're probably pretty safe assuming they're all 10%, which tells you how to read them.

In summary, from one end to the other the dots are Tolerance, 1st Significant, 2nd Significant, Multiplier. And if you get one of the ambiguous ones, there's really nothing to be done but to measure the value.

Hope this helps.

de KE6TI, Harold Smith

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 01:58:22 +0000
From: Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU, elecrafft@qth.net
Message-ID: <20001210.022004.-512867.2.wd3p@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I've been playing around off and on in the 10 meter contest today. Been running the K2 at no more than 500 mWatts. So far the total take is only 24 QSOs. One of the best was PY0FF at 500 mWatts on the first call. I didn't do much this morning, so not much into Europe. I may try that in the morning. Mostly I've been working on low power QSOs into the western states. So far I've got NV at 120 mW, WA at 60 mW, OR at 45 mW, and CA at 45 mW. I'm trying to reduce that WAS total power usage. I still need to catch NM, HI, ID, and MT where my best QSOs to date are all 500 mW or more. I also need to catch AZ where my best QSO to date is 250 mW. I've heard them all but haven't been able to get any of that group so far. I'll have to see how it goes tomorrow.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3p>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 20:31:47 -0600
From: "Marty N5NW" <n5nw@midsouth.rr.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85929] Part needed
Message-ID: <000201c06251\$57f7bb20\$0100a8c0@midsouth.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for the response ... the part is on the way, thanks to a very
obliging soul!

--
72 es 73 de Marty, N5NW

--
Lakeland (Memphis), Tennessee
<http://marty.w.tripod.com/>

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 21:52:31 EST
From: NM5Mike@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)
Subject: [85930] inductor help.. Thanks
Message-ID: <84.e6140f7.276449ef@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to NB6M and several others to the reply to my question about inductor
markings!

73.

Eric

NM5M

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 22:15:46 -0500
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [85931] Re: Need Nevada?
Message-ID: <20001209.221552.-285459.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Back when I got my ticket, the Ham radio columns in Popular Electronics and Electronics Illustrated had occasional listings for "States Needed" for Novice WAS. Is this cheating, or an artifact of the time?

Keep in mind that from the inception of the Novice license, up until it was restructured in the 70's, the Novice was a 1-year non-renewable license. Earning the coveted Worked All States within your one calendar year, especially considering that your license might take 2 to 3 weeks to first arrive was quite an accomplishment.

No one considered it "breaking the rules" or "cheating" by using skeds for the hard-to-get states. It still is not, and posting your requests or your proposed operating schedules on a website, Email list, Reflector or Packet is just an application of upgraded technology.

Need Nevada? Sorry to hear it, and the best of luck. You are in Nevada, and available for contacts for WAS, GREAT! Shout it to the world, and more power to you!!!

Can't stand the fact that someone used a High-Tech "Cheat" for WAS/WAC/WAZ/DXCC/Etc? Then cancel your ISP account, smash your computer, go sit in a smokey room with the rest of your Luddite associates and enjoy your pure lifestyle, but don't whine to us about ours.

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp President, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub & Tech Coordinator, ARRL WNY Section

My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!

Replies - <mailto:wb2vuo@arrl.net>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sat, 9 Dec 2000 19:28:57 -0800 (PST)
From: hgruen@pacifier.com (Huston Gruen)
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [85932] Pocket PC

Message-ID: <200012100328.TAA01582@smtp.pacifier.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Does anyone know of a source or site for ham radio programs that will run on a Pocket PC or windows CE device??? thanks.

Huston K7ITA

Date: Sat, 09 Dec 2000 20:40:01 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85933] 4:1 balun.
Message-ID: <3A330921.EEB8144F@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang, in reparing a 4:1 balun I decided to wind it a bit better.

It measures -20 dB return loss from 2.8 to 88 MHz and -17 dB return loss from 1.8 to 100 MHz.

Is this typical?

--
72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

Why pay for something you could get for free?
NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 00:07:24 -0500
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
To: "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqrp.org>, "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85934] Official Warbler Kit Shipping List
Message-ID: <00ca01c06267\$17030000\$0100000a@gheron>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Okay folks, N2CX informs me that he's knee-deep in Warbler sub-packs from our kitters this weekend and that he's on a super-human marathon run of bringing them all together. Joe says they'll start going into the mail on Monday!!

The official Warbler Ship List has been updated for all orders received to date. Labels are now printed and kits will be shipped to these people during this coming week, as planned. You can see the list at the Warbler site: <http://www.njqrp.org/warbler/orders.html> ... or by sending an email to EMBOT@NJQRP.ORG with SEND ORDERS in the body of the message.

If you sent an order but don't see your name up there yet ... don't worry!! We have 36 kits unspoken for from this round of kitting, so the next 36 orders to be received in the coming week will get those. When we get close to these 36 being exhausted, we'll get kitting round #3 in gear. (Most parts are already ordered and in-hand.)

Thank you all for the wonderfully supportive comments and feedback concerning the Warbler. NN1G, N2CX and I enjoy reading every detail of your successes, and we can assure everyone that there is more fun ahead for this digital mode. Can't share any details right now, but those of you who have (or will soon have) Warblers and PSK-xx transceivers are getting in on the ground floor of some exciting times ahead.

73,
--George Heron, N2APB n2apb@amsat.org
--Joe Everhart, N2CX n2cx@voicenet.com
--Dave Benson, NN1G nn1g@earthlink.net

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 00:35:56 -0500 (EST)
From: igeq100@iupui.edu
To: W2BJ <barry@minsky.org>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85935] Re: [Elecraft] Paddle recommendations
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.96.1001210003338.25357A-100000@jade.iupui.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi, Barry -

Mike March's address is lmmarch@visuallink.com I just received my paddles this week and am very pleased with them. You will be too - look at the reviews on the eHam web site.

72,

Richard Meiss, WB9LPU

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 01:40:23 -0500 (EST)
From: Kevin Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: K9IUA@juno.com
Subject: [85936] FOX HISTORY- The 1994/1995 Foxhunt - Complete Logs!
Message-ID: <391884075.976430423198.JavaMail.root@web641-wra.mail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

QRP-L Foxhunters and History Buffs --

A few times lately both Marshall, N1FN, and Ron, KU7Y, have asked about the history of the QRP-L foxhunts.

Well, on their challenge, I researched through the QRP-L CD Archives (volume 2 is what I have).

For the 1994/1995 Foxhunt, which is the first hunt, I spent about 8 hours working with the CD to come up with the following documents for you folks:

http://helios.augustana.edu/~kla/foxhunt_beginning.txt
http://helios.augustana.edu/~kla/foxhunt1_1994_1995.txt

The first contains the earliest post that I could find from Chuck Adams that proclaims the forthcoming Fox hunt. This dates to August 12, 1994. Unfortunately I know that this is not the first e-mail exchanged on the subject, as it implies an "update" to the planning already taking place, but the archives are missing for the period before that from July 9 to August 11.

The second document is long (116Kbytes) and contains the actual 1994/1995 foxhunt as told through the

schedules, rules, and fox logs. I was able to find all but three of the foxii logs from the 23 events operated by 12 foxii. (Not included, you will be glad to hear, are all the hunter's reports of "fox heard" and "fox not heard" that so often follow the event -- I figure you can read those yourself from the CD.)

I hope you find these documents interesting reading. The foxhunt of six years ago shares a resemblance with today's hunts, but also displayed a much different environment in hunter skill, propagation, and other aspects. While logs of 70 or more contacts seem commonplace now, these are records of hunts that typically had 6 or 12 contacts (the highest in one session was 20!). We've come a long way.

Enjoy reading this history. And please, if you find errors or can supplement my compilation, please notify me at K9IUA@juno.com or kla@helios.augustana.edu. Thanks.

Also, please notify me if you have trouble accessing these documents.

And now, please, can someone else volunteer to do something similar for the other years, and also maybe document the SSB, 30m, 20m, and other foxhunt events that were also going on back then and through to today? I'm tired and its late....

I would also like to see this put onto Lehigh. Can do, someone?

Cheers/73 from *COLD* and windy North Dakota, where it is below 0 Deg. Fahrenheit

Kevin, K9IUA, Bismarck/Lincoln ND

home: K9IUA@juno.com
alt: kla@helios.augustana.edu

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 00:52:13 -0600

From: Monty N5FC <n5fc@io.com>
To: AQR@egroups.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.edu
Subject: [85937] Noise Generator Application
Message-ID: <4.3.2.7.1.20001210004009.00a90840@mail.io.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hello All..

Well, I've been having fun with the NOSS RF Noise Generator and the Spectrogram Frequency Analyses software. I used it to check the filter response of my TenTec Scout and TenTec 1340 QRP kit. I also checked out my little mini-Altoids 40 meter receiver's audio filter response. The noise/FFT setup really helps identify and clarify performance issues. I learned a lot.

For example, I've always heard this faint, high-pitched whine in the headphone Scout's audio when the volume control is turned down. On the graphs, I can plainly see a spur every 1250 Hz. Don't know yet what's causing it, but now I have a good idea what I'm looking for. Also, the Scout always seemed to have a "bassy" sound to it, even after I sent it to TenTec for alignment. I wasn't sure if I was imagining it or not, but judging from the FFT graphs, I'm not. If any of you have experience fixing either of these problems in the TenTec Scout, please let me know.

As I am prone to do, I built a web page on my experiences with it, including pictures and graphs. If you're inclined, check it out at:

<http://www.io.com/~n5fc/>

The page also includes links to the NOSS kit and Spectrogram sites.

72,
monty N5FC

Monty Northrup, N5FC
Austin, Texas
e-mail: n5fc@io.com
web page (ham radio): <http://www.io.com/~n5fc>
web page (home): <http://www.io.com/~maddog>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 02:29:51 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85938] Update on the NC 20

Message-ID: <5f.e04de12.27648aef@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,
After almost a whole year I decided to(TRY) and get my NC 20 working again.
I checked for voltage as per the manual and came up with different readings.
Others mailed me and offered tips and suggestions.
Still nothing.
Then Steve mailed me and VIA "E" mail I found out he was the same Steve that
asked me to mail it to him the NC 20 last Summer.
Then I changed my mind because I thought I may have roasted the whole rig.
Steve told be that it is possable that the NC 20 could end up being a basket
case but that chances of that were VERY SLIM.
So I sent him the rig and well.....Read his letter below
Bob,

Your NC-20 came in today and it didn't take long to fix. Only took a
few minutes to find the Tx mixer and driver weren't getting power.
Replaced the PNP keying transistor and it came back to life, with a
full 6 watts out.

I'll ship it back to you Monday.

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"
Steve also confirmed that the final in my NC 40 was bad after I told him how
I checked it out with my meter.
He also gave me the 800 # for a parts supplier if I needed the MRF 237
Hams helping Hams and Steve is one of those helpers.
Thanks to Steve I'll be banging out Q's on 14.060 on Thursday.
Thanks Steve.
You'r Silver Star is on the way.
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 11:05:56 +0100
From: DL2FI@t-online.de (Peter Zenker)
To: "Phil Wheeler" <w7ox@earthlink.net>
Cc: "Eric Swartz WA6HHQ - Elecraft" <eric@elecraft.com>, "Elecraft mail list"
<elecraft@qth.net>, "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85939] RE:RE: [Elecraft] ARS Sojourner K1 Review - Comments
Message-ID: <NBBBL000LDJMPIEAGJIOKEDNFGAA.DL2FI@t-online.de>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Phil,
hope you had a nice weekend :-)
sorry, if my bad english lead to misunderstand my statements. I know, I am not very diplomatic in my native language and may be, this sounds more worse if I try to say it in english ;-(

Please understand this thread as a technical discussion. No idea to harm someone personally.

Why did I use the SST as an example? Because IMO it wonderful shows how misleading technical terms could be. If you compare only IP3 without looking at frontend selectivity it MUST be a worse rig. But in fact it isn't. As it is, it's one of the best you can get for backpacking use, with a little more selectivity you have a receiver with less intermodulation problems than many big commercial rigs.

K2, broadband and General coverage:

Yes, I know that you in USA have more space on 7 MHz than we have in Europe. To have a no compromise frontend, there is no other way than making it tuneable as it was in older days.

The K2 has NOT a general coverage RX, but the frontend of K2 is VERY more wideband than it has to be for amateur use and every two months again the "WE WANT A GENERAL COVERAGE. K2" thread is rolling over the elecraft reflector. THAT's the pressure I am talking of.

A fact is that almost any experienced homebrewer in Europe I know has modified almost any US rigs frontend for better selectivity. See the tons of articles how to do this in all EU Ham Magazines. And on the other hand see the absolute worse results of all the ricebox designers going the opposite way.

I assume that Wayne is able to design a less compromised frontend, but I am afraid he cannot do because the majority of his customers wish to have a short wave radio PLUS an Amateur Band receiver.

Again my statement: The K2 is the best you get for your money in the moment, but it could be better if you use more selective frontends for each band.

Peter

0

> Peter, isn't the SST a poor example of the "market pressure" premise? It
> was never intended as commercial. In fact, building one is really a bit
> of an experiment, with many mods that are extensively documented.

> Moreover, I believe the goal was minimum parts in a small superhet ..
> with the consequences you note; those goals and compromises were well
> documented in Wayne's early QRPP article.

> I'm puzzled by the reference to "broadband" and "general coverage" in
> the context of the K2, K1 etc. Is "broadband" referring to covering the
> full amateur spectrum (in some bands like 40 wider in this part of the
> world than in Europe) without fall-off of sensitivity at the band edges?
> If so, that "pressure" should be responded to.

>
> Does "general coverage" (my interpretation of the language in your first
> paragraph) mean full coverage from 1.8 MHz ot 30 MHz, for example? If
> so, how does this relate in any way to the K2? It does not have this as
> a design criterion, and the K2 does not have this capability.

>
> So, this message is not intended to disagree with what you said, Peter.
> I'm just puzzled by what you appear to be saying.

>
> 73, Phil W70X

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 07:13:53 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85940] QRP-L member??
Message-ID: <9.e19eb62.2764cd81@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Subj: I wlt buy your rig - or ask a nice OM to fix it.
Date: 12/10/00 5:47:10 AM Eastern Standard Time
From: mm1esg@compuserve.de (Chris Wagner)
To: RangerSF5@aol.com

72,
Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good luck!

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<HEAD>
<META http-equiv=Content-Type content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1">
<META content="MSHTML 5.50.4134.600" name=GENERATOR>
<STYLE></STYLE>
</HEAD>

<DIV>72,</DIV>

<DIV>Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good luck!</DIV>

Can anyone make anything of this?

Bob

WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 07:17:25 -0500
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, ". NJ QRP-L" <njqrp@njqrp.org>
Subject: [85941] AT in PA Alert 12/10/00 Update
Message-ID: <003f01c062a3\$28f04480\$385278cc@wb3aal>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

My trip on the Appalachian Trail today is still on.
The wx will be around 32' F with a light wind.
There is a chance of snow flurries for the area.
I will be about a 1 hour hike of 3 miles East of
Route 501 at a location called Round Head.

040" 30' 27.74"N
076" 18' 40.12"W
Elevation of 1500 Ft

I plan to be on the air between 17:00 and 18:00 UTC.

This is what I will have with me.

SW-40+ Transceiver running 1.5 watts out.
40 meter dipole cut for 7.040 MHz with
20 feet of RG 8X feed line. The antenna will
be setup in the North/South direction.
Poqet PC for logging and keying.
7 aH battery solar charged.
Myself and tent with a thermos of coffee.

Look for me in or around 7.040 MHz.
If the is QRM I will move down to 7.035 MHz.

I plan to be there for about 2 or 3 hours using WB3AAL.

I will stay there until 20:00 UTC at the latest or until
I can't make any more QSO's. If the wx turns and it
starts to sleet or rain I will be out of there.

72 & 73
Good DXing

Ron Polityka
de WB3AAL
wb3aal@fast.net

vvv Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Web Page vvv
<http://www.n3epa.org>
Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club Call
N3EPA E-mail address: n3epa@fast.net

EPA QRP #1	ARRL Life Member
KL7 QRP # 309	G-QRP # 3031
ARCI QRP # 5318	10 - X #13173
NorCal	Zombie #625
ARS # 380	HI QRP #153
VA QRP Society #45	MI QRP #1703
K2 sn1392	NJ QRP #179

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 05:18:02 -0700
From: "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85942] DK9SQ end cap
Message-ID: <001601c062a5\$17a21d00\$6a211d82@sg2939h.col.hp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sri I forget who the kind lad was that suggested I use a hitch cover to
replace my lost DK9SQ end cap.
THANK YOU!

WOW! great discovery...fits like a glove! Improves the grip if your using
it as a walking stick. One size fits 1-7/8" to 2" ball. But the real test is
how it performs in the field at freezing temps. With tennis ball on the
bottom end it looks like a jousting stick used in some suviror game.<g>
Miliwatting on 10m contest is a kick ...wait till the last few hours their
ears get real good! Steve/n0tu.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 07:42:47 -0500
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@cinci.rr.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85943] HB:minicircuits labs
Message-ID: <003f01c062a6\$b33c98c0\$7ecd1b41@cinci.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hey gang,

Does anybody out there have the detailed specs on a
Minicircuit Labs PIN diode switch "PSW-1211" ?
I need the pin-outs and control voltage info.

tnx

72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39.218N - 84.305W
SOC-8 DLQRPAG-1454 ARCI-10226 ARS-781 QRPL-1998 10X-9389 CATT-26
FPqrp#-1 <http://home.cinci.rr.com/w8diz> [AOL-IM "w8diz"]

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 06:46:35 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: <RangerSF5@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85944] Re: QRP-L member??
Message-ID: <003101c062a7\$4e94a9c0\$0100a8c0@dandooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bob, not sure exactly how it got into the format it did, but it's simply
HTML. That's the coding Web pages are made of as well as messages in that
format. I'd gather that it was sent as an HTML format e-mail message and
then got "converted" to text format.

I copied that portion, and pasted it into an empty text document. Saved it
and then renamed the extension to ".html". Then I opened it - it opened in
a Web browser page. Guess what it said?

"72,
Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good luck!"

That's all it is.

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
e-mail to: dandoooley@pipeline.com
SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
May Goddes love blest ye alle
"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

----- Original Message -----

From: <RangerSF5@aol.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2000 6:13 AM
Subject: QRP-L member??

> Subj: I wlt buy your rig - or ask a nice OM to fix it.
> Date: 12/10/00 5:47:10 AM Eastern Standard Time
> From: mm1esg@compuserve.de (Chris Wagner)
> To: RangerSF5@aol.com
>
> 72,
> Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good luck!
>
> -----
> <!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
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> <STYLE></STYLE>
> </HEAD>
>
> <DIV>72,</DIV>
> <DIV>Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good
> luck!</DIV>
>
> Can anyone make anything of this?
> Bob
> WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 06:14:46 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85945] Re: 4:1 balun.
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012100611490.782-1000000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Ed, Windings on new toroid material can be quite loose without any problems. But I'm interested in how you measured the return loss. How did you do that?

On Sat, 9 Dec 2000, Ed Loranger wrote:

> Gang, in repairing a 4:1 balun I decided to
> wind it a bit better.
>
> It measures -20 dB return loss from
> 2.8 to 88 MHz and -17 dB return loss
> from 1.8 to 100 MHz.
>
> Is this typical?
>
> --
> 72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
> <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
> My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.
>
>
> -----
> Why pay for something you could get for free?
> NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
> <http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>
>
>

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 07:40:14 -0600

From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85946] Kinda QRP
Message-ID: <00b101c062ae\$bb9660c0\$0100a8c0@dandooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry if this is seen as a little off topic.

I've got an Icom ICT8A tri-band HT. Covers 6m 2m and 70cm. Recently the finals apparently went out. No power out at either power level - 1/2 watt or 5 watt. It does go into the xmt mode. Red xmt light lights; and power bar indicator registers. The indication on a FS meter is extremely weak even with the antenna placed real close.

I suspect that the final stage(s) to be the problem. Probably as the result of some antenna experimentation. Dang it! No schematic of course and looking at the insides, well, self repair does not look promising.

Anyone had any experience with repair sources for small hand held radios? Ideas? Suggestions?

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>
SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
May Goddes love blest ye alle
"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 10:14:37 -0500 (EST)
From: baltimoremd@baltimoremd.com
To: Mike Wolford <mwolford@ccrtc.com>
Cc: Robert Marlan <rsm@otology.com>, Roger Marrotte <marrotte@mediaone.net>, BobK8RL@aol.com, elecraft@qth.net,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85947] RE: [Elecraft] Bad Eyes - need magnifying suggestion.....
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.4.05L.10012101011540.29420-1000000@vh1.min.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

> Hey, it is amazing what you may be missing --- there is actually printing on
> a newspaper!!! I had almost forgotten! Not to mention the stripes on

Don't forget that now you'll be able to see those disgusting fine hairs that may be sprouting on the edges of your ears...or the fine wrinkles on the face of the xyl.

73,
Thom

http://www.baltimoremd.com/	Baltimore's Home Page
http://www.baltimorehon.com/	Home of the Baltimore Lexicon
http://www.zerobeat.net	Home of The QRP Web Ring and Drake Mail List Pages

Hi Folks -

I'm spending the next week in Switzerland on business, but will also be bringing along some QRP gear. Will signing as "HB/N2APB".

I will be working QRP frequencies on 20m, 30m and 40m. Also bringing the Portable PSK station to work 20m PSK.

I hope to be operating on Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri during 0200Z-0400Z (4-6pm EST, 1-3pm PST).

On Thursday, I'll be taking a train up into the Swiss Alps which will end close to the top of Eiger Mountain. (Remember movie "The Eiger Sanction" from years ago, starring a young Clint Eastwood?) There's a restaurant up there at 11,000 feet at which most normal people have lunch and look around for a couple of hours. I, however, being of not-quite sound mind and body,

will be outside in the sub-sub-zero temperatures and low-oxygen air working my Portable PSK (controller & PSK-20 in a box, no computer) with a St. Louis Vest Pocket Vertical antenna (featured in recent QRPP and QHB). The time for this should be around 1200Z (7am EST) on Thursday.

Hope to work some of you guys! (Hope I make it back down, unfrozen.)

73, George N2APB
n2apb@amsat.org

PS: If I have the UTC times wrong, my local "Zurich" operations times will be 10pm-midnight daily, and the Eiger Mountain adventure will be 1pm.

PPS: I'll be very slow on response to any email, due to the trip.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 11:41:07 EST
From: K5BDZ@aol.com
To: n2apb@erols.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85949] Re: QRP atop Eiger Mountain in Swiss Alps
Message-ID: <4b.4914a12.27650c23@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

George
Just a note to tell you that last June we were there, and as you get off the cable car at one location, there was an international sign (Picture with slash thru it) which said "No spiked high-heel shoes allowed".....so you may want to review your packing list...Hi
Bill
K5BDZ

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 11:42:05 -0500
From: "William K. Harding" <k4ahk@ix.netcom.com>
To: barry@minsky.org, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85950] Re: [Elecraft] Paddle recommendations
Message-ID: <200012101641.LAA09810@smtp6.mindspring.com>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Mike March has upgraded from W4FJJ to K4QU. I just looked at his keys on his web site at:

www.qsl.net/k4qu/

QRZ lists his email address as

k4qu@qsl.net

I have been using one of his original QRP paddles for several years. It has a rectangular base with black crackle paint. The newer ones are much nicer.

Bill - K4AHK
Burke, VA FM18

>From: W2BJ <barry@minsky.org>
>
>I have been trying to E-mail Mike March to order a set of his paddles. My
>messages are being returned with an indication that it cannot be delivered.
> Does anyone have a current E-mail address for him? thanks.
>
>72/73,
>Barry J. Minsky, W2BJ

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 08:42:03 -0800
From: Bob W7AVK <rsrolfne@atnet.net>
To: rich a <rckchp@home.com>
Cc: Robert Marlan <rsm@otology.com>, Roger Marrotte <marrotte@mediaone.net>, BobK8RL@aol.com, elecraft@qth.net,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85951] Re: [Elecraft] Bad Eyes - need magnifying suggestion.....
Message-ID: <3A33B25B.5042E921@atnet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings - From a "been there, done that". I don't need it yet, but I've found a really neat little share ware windows program that will take a mouse selected isolated section of the screen and enlarge it.

Drop me an email and I can either send it to your or the reference.

73 Bob W7AVK

rich a wrote:

> Robert Marlan wrote:
> >
> > Ok Guys,
> >
> > I have a nice life, a nice career and just turned past forty....
> > Started my 1st K2 - it is so nicely laid out.....
> > but have the numbers on the caps gotten smaller ;)???
> > NEVER had those problems in my heath days!!
> > or am I just getting long in the tooth...
> > (I knew I am asking for it)
> >
> > Any suggestions to be able to read these parts...
> > ? glass vs lamp with magnifier....
> > thanks,
> >
> > Robert
> > rsm@otology.com
> >

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 10:43:31 -0600
From: Lew Paceley <lew@paceley.com>
To: ac7a@gci-net.com, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85952] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
Message-ID: <013b01c062c8\$545aec40\$0332a8c0@roland.swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Thomas/All,
I'd try some Birchwood-Casey Gun Scrubber. You can find it
at almost any sporting goods store that sell firearms. It's
an aerosol that's used to clean gun actions. In my
experience it's a very effective degreaser, i.e., you MUST
regrease after you use this stuff. Good luck and

72/73,
Lew
N5ZE

>I would like rid the capacitor of
> the old grease, and re-grease it before assembling the
ATU. Any ideas how
> to clean the old grease out without boiling the cap?

>
> Thanks, Thomas - AC7A (Tucson)
>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:11:04 +0000
From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: dandoooley@pipeline.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85953] Re: Kinda QRP
Message-ID: <200012101645.LAA12182@wolf.ncia.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> or 5 watt. It does go into the xmt mode. Red xmt light lights; and power
> bar indicator registers. The indication on a FS meter is extremely weak
> even with the antenna placed real close.
>

Dan,
A common problem in HT's is the have the antenna jack center
conductor seperate from the board. Often it's soldered directly to
the board and stress on the jack will make it break. Seeing that the
power meter gives indication, but nothing coming out of the antenna
makes this a good bet. The PA module used in these kind of radios are
pretty robust, and rarely a problem. I fix a lot of CB HT's and
Marine radios here at the shop with the antenna jack problem, make an
easy 20 bucks :-)

72,
Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire
"melt solder"

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:26:02 -0500
From: "A Turner" <aturner13@triad.rr.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85954] Need homebrew data.
Message-ID: <006601c062ce\$44dea1c0\$a4611e01@triad.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have two questions concerning components for use in homebrew projects.

First, where is all the data on the Motorola RF transistors found? I've searched the net but it seems the links are for the most part invalid.

Second, when building a crystal filter and you want the crystals to be matched, how many do you need to order in hopes of getting say four that match closely?

What is cost to order them matched? I'd rather do it myself.

Thanks

Alex, N4BYJ

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:27:39 -0500
From: "kw3u@warwick.net" <kw3u@warwick.net>
To: aadelma@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85955] Re: 10 meter contest
Message-ID: <3A33BD0B.81AAD5AC@warwick.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Really, what an understatement. I figured this weekend I could try using

my cache of 40m xtals and the drake 2nt to operate on the 10m novice band. $7040 \times 4 = 28.160$ etc. thought it would be a cakewalk- uncrowded- slow ops - and the old yaesu 7700 rcvr with no filters would do fine. YOWZERS the band is packed from 28.000 to 28.200 - no 5wpm heard but stuck on various xtal freqs so not tuning. However still a ball - theres a s57u on this xtal freq so what the heck. throw the knifeswitch send my call - throw knifeswitch again- opps forgot attentuator --- wait

he did get me- yippee.. changing freqs, heres another xtal - get calculator $\times 4$ -

tune rcvr - xmt to zero rcvr and dang no output/opps forgot knifeswitch

-

there-AHHH my ears - forgot attentuator ---Wow I got germany, wonder if I shud break his train of thought and tell him what i'm doing and how much

fun I'm having...wish i had a 10m qrp rig...hmmmmm k1 for xmas?

nothing like a day off a calculator, pile of 40m xtals and lots of tiny post-its

to stick on them. Ok back to having fun. 72 Jim kw3u

Alan wrote:

> I've always thought 10m is an under-utilized band,
> especially on cw.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:39:46 -0500
From: wb2vuo@juno.com
To: rsm@otology.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85956] Re: Magnifier
Message-ID: <20001210.123948.-288755.1.wb2vuo@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Robert, Keith here in the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp

Check your local sewing supply shop. My wife got a magnifying glass that hangs on ones chest on a lanyard, and allows her to view the sewing through it. Packaged by Singer, it was about \$8.00 a couple of years ago.

I have a headband-mounted flip-down magnifier that gives me 2x and 3.5x, a bit more expensive, but handy for my work both here and in the shop. It drops in front of the trifocals, effectively giving me 12 working distances (duodecafocals?) down to 3/4" if need be. The close range is murder on the nose, but the burn scars from the butane-fired soldering iron are fading!

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, 100% QRP from the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp
President, Brockport Amateur Radio Klub & Tech Coordinator, ARRL WNY
Section
My night light runs more power than my Rig!!!
Replies - <mailto:wb2vuo@arrl.net>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 10:46:54 -0700 (MST)

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85957] QRP to Me
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012100853560.832-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

QRP in the sense it has with people who get this List, QRP-L, is a simple understanding that it's more pleasant to work WAS with low power than with high power. An understanding that at the QRP frequencies, not well defined, you call CQ and someone hearing you 549 will answer and you have a nice chat. More often than not the signals are 589 or higher.

We enjoy putting together radio kits that smart people, also on the list, put together. I'm amused that the magazine QST has discovered the QRP kits at last. We are not all successful putting these kits together but we learn to buy a good soldering station and how to mount surface mount components. Since we are most of us looking back at age 60, tiny things are a wonderful challenge!

Some people believe you should build your own rig if you run QRP. Not a bad idea but it leaves out some people who have more money than time. There are a lot of good radios already built that run at QRP and QRO powers. I have a Kenwood TS-50S which was easy to adjust to 5 watts on the lowest power setting. It will run 100 watts if your not doing QRP things.

QRP is a personal thing and you run QRP powers for the pleasure of doing so. I have heard non-QRP people say, how do you know that station is running 5 watts or less? No-one but the person doing it knows for certain that they are at QRP power. And we of the QRP movement have learned to trust each other and when a station says he is running 3 watts, he is. I have several times during contests that I entered as QRP, wanted to crank the power pot to full on at 100 watts. But I also know when I do that I don't count the contact as a QRP one, and far more times the 100 watts doesn't work either.

I am true to QRP. When I say I'm running QRP the power out is less than 5 watts.

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:50:25 -0500
From: "Jim Kortge, K8IQY" <jokortge@prodigy.net>
To: aturner13@triad.rr.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85958] Re: Need homebrew data.
Message-ID: <5.0.0.25.1.20001210124611.00a25d80@pop.prodigy.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 12:26 PM 12/10/00 -0500, you wrote:

>-snip-

>Second, when building a crystal filter and you want the crystals to be
>matched, how many do you need to order in hopes of getting say four that
>match closely?

Sometimes you can get there only ordering 10, but usually it takes
20 to get a really good set, but with that many, you can usually
get another acceptable set if all you are after are matched sets
of 3 or 4 crystals. If you want matched sets of 6 or more, better
buy 100!

>What is cost to order them matched?

I don't know if any commercial supplier who will do that for
you. If you find one, let me know.

> I'd rather do it myself.

There you go....have some fun and learn something! :-)

72 and GL.....Jim, K8IQY

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 17:21:00 +0100
From: "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
To: <RangerSF5@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85959] this ain't no way to talk - I wlt get off this list!
Message-ID: <009d01c062d2\$01bd20c0\$98dab43e@chriswag>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Everybody:

I wanted to respond to a message asking for help / offering a defective NC 40 for \$ 25. Maybe I inadvertently mixed up the address. SORRY. *** Relax, no offence or scam intended.*** Sadly, unsubscribing hasn't worked out but I'll keep trying.

Seasons Greetings,

Chris MM1ESG ("who the hell are you?????" messages please direct).

```
> Subj:    I wlt buy your rig - or ask a nice OM to fix it.
> Date:    12/10/00 5:47:10 AM Eastern Standard Time
> From:    mm1esg@compuserve.de (Chris Wagner)
> To:      RangerSF5@aol.com
>
> 72,
> Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good luck!
>
> -----
> <!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
> <HEAD>
> <META http-equiv=Content-Type content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1">
> <META content="MSHTML 5.50.4134.600" name=GENERATOR>
> <STYLE></STYLE>
> </HEAD>
>
> <DIV>72,</DIV>
> <DIV>Chris MM1ESG (U.S. address etc. no problem). Good
> luck!</DIV>
>
> Can anyone make anything of this?
> Bob
> WA2HOQrp <tm>
```

```
-----

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:12:13 -0500
From: "Tracy" <tracy@bytemark.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85960] RE: 4:1 balun.
Message-ID: <NCBBICHAOKICOGKID00GCEINEBAA.tracy@bytemark.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
```

I would also like to know how you measured those losses. What equipment did you use? I'm always looking for ways to measure ...

In a 'transmission line transformer' the critical issue is consistency in the spacing of the conductors in relation to one another. The characteristic impedance of the line is determined by the spacing of the transmission line used in the transformation. Once that is consistent, the windings on the core can be loose with no problems.

The commercial BALUNS on the market generally boast very low 'insertion' losses; I don't see much in ratings of 'return' losses.

Tracy N4LGH
QRP-L #1453

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Karl F. Larsen
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2000 8:15 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: 4:1 balun.

Hi Ed, Windings on new toroid material can be quite loose without any problems. But I'm interested in how you measured the return loss. How did you do that?

On Sat, 9 Dec 2000, Ed Loranger wrote:

> Gang, in repairing a 4:1 balun I decided to
> wind it a bit better.
>
> It measures -20 dB return loss from
> 2.8 to 88 MHz and -17 dB return loss
> from 1.8 to 100 MHz.
>
> Is this typical?
>
> --
> 72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
> <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
> My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.
>
>
> -----
> Why pay for something you could get for free?
> NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
> <http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

>
>

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:57:33 -0500 (EST)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [85961] FS
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012101155400.230-100000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have several items.

1.

Compact nice looking radio in exceptional shape. QRP
cw/ssb transceiver. DC power cord and mobile bracket. Original manual Yaesu
FT-7.

See <http://www.qsl.net/sm7vhs/radio/yaesu/ft7/ft7.htm>

This site shows what it looks like and lists the complete specs.

I will ship it monday for \$250 if paid by paypal.

(I want to beef up my paypal account to buy something :)

2.

I also have a ASUS CUSL2 motherboard with new ATX mid tower/300 ps
with extra optional fans and Golden orb cooling fan. This is new/unused
and mounted in case. I will include the box for the motherboard and all
docs. This is "the" motherboard for overclockers. It is for PIII intel
chip. It has onboard video. I built one and this is a spare that didn't
get built. \$200. (I opened it to inspect it and put it back in the box)

3

500mHz frequency counter, Davis electronics- \$60 (I have two and will sell
one)

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 10:05:30 -0800
From: neil <neil@aaade.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85962] re: magnifiers
Message-ID: <3A33C5EA.7D552C47@aaade.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This will do the job on your monitor screen and
it's free
<http://members.tripod.com/avargas/magnifier.zip>

If you want a headband magnifier at reasonable
price
<http://www.aade.com>

--
Neil
<http://www.aade.com>
<mailto:neil@aaade.com>
Almost All Digital Electronics
1412 Elm St. SE
Auburn, WA 98092
253-351-9316

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:12:35 -0500
From: "Tom" <tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85963] Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
Message-ID: <005101c062d4\$c69de800\$3a6d8bd1@tmccullo>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This isn't exactly qrp, but if don't get myself a decent antenna, my signal isn't won't be going anywhere, so maybe it is qrp related, after all. Anyway, thanks in advance for your help, it seems I'm learning more from this list than anywhere else.

I've been reading about vertical antenna and understand that they need ground radials to act as the "other half" of the antenna. It's my understanding that in the case of mobile antennas, the car itself acts as the radial.

My question then is, would it be feasible to place some sort of a screen down on tghe ground to act as the radial? This might be something loke a square piece of chicken wire or perhaps an old piece of chain link fence. If so, how big would it have to be? I'm thinking again of the automobile and that's pretty small (lengthwise) in comparison to a radial. I don't think overall mass enters into the picture, because they don't seem to care what size wire you use for the radials.

The next thought which comes to mind is to mount a vertical on top of an existing chain link fence (one that is in use and standing up in fence-fashion). Or perhaps immediately next to it. I'm sure this won't work, or I would have heard about it by now.

So I guess to simplify my question...Why can a mobile antenna use a big hunk of metal (a car) and a stationery antenna needs a rather elaborate radial system?

Once again, thanks for your help and for a great list.

Tom McCulloch
WB2QDG

wb2qdg@arrl.net

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:30:24 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85964] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
Message-ID: <3A33CBC0.F238E3AC@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tom, at HF frequencies, some of the effectiveness of mobile vehicular-mounted antennas comes from the quite large capacitance between the vehicle body/chassis and actual earth ground. This capacitance serves to provide a low-impedance r-f connection to actual earth which greatly expands the radial effect beyond that of the vehicle alone. The overall effectiveness still, however, relies upon the loss properties of the soil, etc.

Some vehicles, such as large motorhomes, may be large enough on 20 meters and above, for example, to provide "radials" in virtue of their size, especially if the antenna is mounted on the top of the vehicle.

With most small cars, however, with bumper-mounted antennas and operation on 75 or 40, a great deal if not most of the effectiveness of antenna return current collection comes from the presence of the earth around the vehicle and the capacitance connection between the vehicle and the earth. Conversely, on 10 meters and VHF/UHF, the vehicle itself is large enough to provide a significant ground plane effect.

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county QRP-L 1373
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756 PRO #02121 (9/00) Kachina #91900556 (12/99) IC-765 (6/90)

Tom wrote:

> I've been reading about vertical antenna and understand that they need
> ground radials to act as the "other half" of the antenna. It's my
> understanding that in the case of mobile antennas, the car itself acts as
> the radial.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:32:08 -0500
From: Craig LaBarge <LaBarge_C@compuserve.com>
To: QRP-L Mailing List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, EPA QRP List <epaqrp-l@lehigh.edu>, ATRAIL-L Mailing List <atrail-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85965] WB3AAL on the AT
Message-ID: <200012101332_MC2-BE05-E6FE@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Greetings:

I just worked Ron, WB3AAL from the Appalachian Trail at 1823Z on 7.040. =
He
gave his location as 3 miles east of Rt 501 in PA. =

Ron wanted me to post a message saying that he might be leaving in a bout=
45 minutes. So, if you want to work him, you better hurry. Sounds like =
it
might be getting pretty cold up there. He said he will post a report whe=
n
he returns.

73, Craig WB3GCK

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:34:29 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: mm1esg@compuserve.de, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85966] Re: this ain't no way to talk - I wlt get off this list!
Message-ID: <3c.4b791d5.276526b5@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/10/00 12:52:46 PM Eastern Standard Time,
mm1esg@compuserve.de writes:

<<
I wanted to respond to a message asking for helt / offering a defective NC
40 for \$ 25. Maybe I inadvertently mixed up the address. SORRY. *** Relax,
no offence or scam intended.*** Sadly, unsubscribing hasn't worked out but
I'll keep trying.

>>
Not sure what is going on but I never listed my NC 40 or will ever sell it.
If I did it would be for more then the \$25.00 since I now have the KC-1
working.
I see no reason for you to unsubscribe but that's your choice.
Happy Holidays
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 10:51:31 -0800

From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85967] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
Message-ID: <20001210105131.B24097@oz.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

Hi Tom,

Yes, in a mobile installation the car acts as the counterpoise/radials. However it is not very efficient, compared to a set of full-size radials. A screen on the ground would be feasible, but it should ideally extend a half-wavelength in all directions. Of course this is impractical, as is often a large number of half-wavelength radial wires.

Of course with qrp, your transmitted power is lower than a qro station and the antenna efficiency becomes more important.

It isn't a case of all or nothing, however. Just as any antenna is better than none at all, any sort of counterpoise (even just a ground rod) is better than none at all. Often we need to compromise because of practical considerations. The RSGB book "Practical Wire Antennas" by G3BDQ has some good examples of ground screens and fitting radials to available real estate. There is also a good discussion of radials on the Butternut web site, <http://www.bencher.com>.

Bob, N7XY

On Sun, Dec 10, 2000 at 01:12:35PM -0500, Tom wrote:

> This isn't exactly qrp, but if don't get myself a decent antenna, my signal
> isn't won't be going anywhere, so maybe it is qrp related, after all.
> Anyway, thanks in advance for your help, it seems I'm learning more from
> this list than anywhere else.
>
> I've been reading about vertical antenna and understand that they need
> ground radials to act as the "other half" of the antenna. It's my
> understanding that in the case of mobile antennas, the car itself acts as
> the radial.
>
> My question then is, would it be feasible to place some sort of a screen
> down on tghe ground to act as the radial? This might be something loke a
> square piece of chicken wire or perhaps an old piece of chain link fence.
> If so, how big would it have to be? I'm thinking again of the automobile
> and that's pretty small (lengthwise) in comparison to a radial. I don't
> think overall mass enters into the picture, because they don't seem to care
> what size wire you use for the radials.

>
> The next thought which comes to mind is to mount a vertical on top of an
> existing chain link fence (one that is in use and standing up in
> fence-fashion). Or perhaps immediately next to it. I'm sure this won't
> work, or I would have heard about it by now.
>
> So I guess to simplify my question...Why can a mobile antenna use a big hunk
> of metal (a car) and a stationery antenna needs a rather elaborate radial
> system?
>
> Once again, thanks for your help and for a great list.
>
> Tom McCulloch
> WB2QDG
>
> wb2qdg@arrl.net

--

Bob Nielsen, N7XY
Bainbridge Island, WA

nielsen@oz.net
<http://www.oz.net/~nielsen>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 14:14:09 -0500 (EST)
From: "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>
To: Craig LaBarge <LaBarge_C@compuserve.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85968] RE: WB3AAL on the AT
Message-ID: <XFMail.001210141409.w2agn@pobox.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
MIME-Version: 1.0

Just worked Ron at 1815Z. He is QRT now and hiking out.

John W2AGN

On 10-Dec-00 Craig LaBarge wrote:

> Greetings:
>
> I just worked Ron, WB3AAL from the Appalachian Trail at 1823Z on 7.040. He
> gave his location as 3 miles east of Rt 501 in PA.

| | | | <_ > | . | / _ > | \ | John L. Sielke w2agn@pobox.com w2agn@qsl.net

| | | | / / | | | <_/\| | NJ Grid:FM29LN <http://www.qsl.net/w2agn>
|_/_/_/ <___>|_|_|'____/|__| NJ-QRP #57 QRP-L #884 QRP-ARCI ARQrp #86
EX-N4JS, W4MPC, W7JEF, K3HLU G-QRP #9544 NorCal CQC AKQRP QCWA FISTS #2781
SOC #390, fpQRP, ARLHS, OOTC, Elecraft K2 #00023 K1 #00146

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:42:03 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: <dandooley@pipeline.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-
l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85969] Re: Kinda QRP followup
Message-ID: <005b01c062e1\$47a2f740\$0100a8c0@dandooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ok folks. I've had a lot of replies on this question. To those, thanks.

I actually (later, after I had posted the message) found a place here in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area that repairs Icom radios. Apparently an authorized center. Found it through the Icom Web site. So, I'll give 'em a call and make enquires.

To those who have made suggestions as to what the problem might be, I guess I did not give enough details. The radio receives very, very well. There has been no drop at all in the receive sensitivity. I can hear the same repeaters at the same signal strength as before. That, plus the fact that 3 different antennas have been tried, rules out - 1: Bad antenna, 2: connector or connection problem between the connector and the board. I blew the final, plain and simple. I can hear it in another radio across the room, but that's as far as it goes.

BTW, this particular radio uses the small SMA connector rather than the more common BNC. I don't like that.

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>
SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
May Goddes love blest ye alle
"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

----- Original Message -----

From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2000 7:40 AM
Subject: Kinda QRP

> Sorry if this is seen as a little off topic.
>
> I've got an Icom ICT8A tri-band HT. Covers 6m 2m and 70cm. Recently the
> finals apparently went out. No power out at either power level - 1/2 watt
> or 5 watt. It does go into the xmt mode. Red xmt light lights; and power
> bar indicator registers. The indication on a FS meter is extremely weak
> even with the antenna placed real close.
>
> I suspect that the final stage(s) to be the problem. Probably as the
result
> of some antenna experimentation. Dang it! No schematic of course and
> looking at the insides, well, self repair does not look promising.
>
> Anyone had any experience with repair sources for small hand held radios?
> Ideas? Suggestions?
>
>
> Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
> e-mail to: dandooley@pipeline.com
> Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>
> SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
> May Goddes love blest ye alle
> "Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."
>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 19:51:37 +0000
From: "Chuck Adams, K7Q0" <k7qo@primenet.com>
To: aturner13@triad.rr.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85970] Matching Crystals [was homebrew data needed]
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20001210180554.00a0e020@pop.primenet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 12:26 PM 12/10/00 -0500, A Turner wrote:
> I have two questions concerning components for use in homebrew projects.
>
>
> Second, when building a crystal filter and you want the crystals to be

>matched, how many do you need to order in hopes of getting say four that
>match closely?
>What is cost to order them matched? I'd rather do it myself.
>
>Thanks
>Alex, N4BYJ

I am in the process of matching crystals for the IOWA QRP 10 by Mike Fitzgibbon, NOMF, so I can address this issue of matching crystals.

You will need one piece of equipment that you will have to buy at some time or borrow from someone that has a good frequency counter that will count and display to 1Hz. I'll come back to this later.

First. Build yourself a crystal tester. Several clubs such as G-QRP have a small kit or you can get a board from FAR Circuits. But the easiest way is to just build one up using Manhattan Style construction or Ugly construction techniques. Some crystal checkers have an LED setup to display that the crystal is indeed oscillating as it is used at swap meets and other places to test crystals of unknown origin. I replace the LED with a simple diode rectifier, a cap, a variable resistor in series with a 200 uA meter. This metering circuit I use to monitor the relative output from the circuit for each crystal to get the ones that match closest in frequency and have the greatest "activity". One side benefit of building a crystal checker Manhattan Style is to get some practice and experience of using the technique without a lot of time and money up front.

Read Chapter 14 of the ARRL Handbook 1995 or later and especially the section on crystals and crystal oscillators. Also on my web page in the Manhattan Section is a layout for a crystal oscillator and is the one that I use.

And before the discussion gets started. It does not matter a hill of beans whether the crystal tester oscillates the crystal in series or parallel mode. You just want all the crystals to oscillate at the same frequency and either mode will do.

Secondly. You need a frequency counter that counts down to 1Hz. I use an old Heathkit IM-2410 Frequency Counter. It is accurate and it is stable. You MUST have a frequency counter that does not drift, i.e. change frequency readings over time, if you want to be assured that all the work you do is valid in matching crystals. I have a Startek and a Radio Shack Counter. The Startek goes to 1.5GHz, but is only good to 100Hz at the lower frequencies and the Radio Shack is good to 10Hz. I consider each to be unsuitable for serious work. If you find a IM-2410 in good shape and priced under \$75 or so I'd recommend you get it. Doug Hendricks can tell you about his.

OK, now to match the crystals. You will need as many crystals as you can

get (within reasonable constraints of course). All from the same manufacturer and all manufactured in the same group which usually means in the same day. If you order a group of crystals from Mouser, DigiKey, etc. and all at the same frequency this will be the case most of the time. Another thing: when you buy crystals from someplace like Mouser you'll note that the cost per crystal goes down when you buy quantities. Get friends and other club members to go in with you on a project.

I have avoided giving you a specific number needed to get a set of say 4 matched crystals. You can get very lucky and order 4 and get 4 exactly matched crystals or you get have to get 20 or so to get 4 crystals within say 10Hz of the same resonant frequency. And don't think that a circuit that requires 4.000000MHz IF crystals has to have exactly that number. If you get 4 crystals that all have a frequency of 4.0001689MHz then that will work just as well. This isn't rocket science here at this point.

I first calibrate my frequency counter with WWV. I do this using the Heath (can you tell I spent a lot of money with them when they were in business? :-)) GC-1000 Clock that has a 3.600000MHz standard frequency output when in sync with WWV. This means that the frequency is exact to within the accuracy of the time standard at WWV which is good enough for government work.

I then measure the oscillating frequency of each crystal in the batch using the crystal checker setup. I use a sheet of typing paper and write the frequency down on the sheet and place the crystal on the writing. I group the crystals by their frequency and try to get 3 or 4 that have the same frequency exactly or at least within 5 or less Hz. These crystals I use as filter crystals in a rig.

Also: I take the first crystal that I measure and make it special. I write down its resonant frequency. And about every 5th crystal or so I remeasure the "standard" crystal, i.e. the first one, and make sure it is still the same. This insures to some degree that the frequency counter and the crystal checker setup hasn't changed. Things like battery life, etc. enter into the picture. I think without this sanity check you will be in serious trouble. And if you don't do this you can get crystals that you think are matched that are not and your receiver will not work as advertised.

You MUST do this work in one session uninterrupted. This is not something you can do a part of and go away and come back. Jupiter's alignment with Mars will change and the numbers will change and you will have to start all over again. Been there. Done that. :-) I worked my way through three years of undergraduate work in

Physics

working with Collins, HP, and James Knight on a project involving quartz crystals and their physical properties. A project that I greatly appreciate even to this day. Work in a lab really gives you a greater insight into the working world as we know it.

Hope this email helps one or more people.

On another note. There are several QRP clubs like NorCal, NJQRP, North GA, and Ft. Smith AR that do the work to supply kits of various types to the QRP community. They all generate revenues from these kits and those revenues are poured back into the QRP world through additional funding for research and other activities like Pacificon, Atlanticon, Arkicon, etc.

There are several small projects that other clubs could do that would also generate some revenues. Things like the crystal checker, frequency counter, freq standard, power meter, gel-cell charger, paddles, RF probes, and many other "lab equip. projects" that one or more clubs could do. Yes I know that anyone in this group could build one of these on their own. But there are many who would appreciate the value of a "group buy" on the components and all the hassle of getting documentation and parts together in one place easily and the reduced overhead of shipping and handling fees.

So if your club is looking for some projects to undertake the above are just a few that I recommend. There are many around that can help you. I think the demand is out there and heck there are some of us that buy these things just to save on the cost of a nervous breakdown....

FYI

P.S. In the December issue of QST there is an article by Ron Stone, KA3J, for a frequency counter with 10Hz resolution. I have one built but I'm waiting for the source code from Ron which the article says is available but he is cleaning up the comments. You can build it for less than \$10 in parts. See pages starting on 33.

Chuck Adams, K7QO
Prescott, AZ k7qo@primenet.com

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:13:28 -0800
From: Don Minkoff <cowchip@mediaone.net>
To: qrp list <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85971] Revised, updated and error correction copy of LOG#14
Message-ID: <3A33E3E8.AD3FF42E@mediaone.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There were a few errors in my transcribing from paper to the computer..

Sorry. I will consider this my final log..

Back to 10M.

FOX LOG #14- NK6A Dec. 8, 2000

0200	WE7G	559	UT	WAYNE	5W
0201	NQ7X	559	AZ	FLOYD	5W
0202	K0EVZ	579	ND	DOC	5W
0205	N5ET	559	TX	BOB	5W
0206	VA6RF	559	AB	EARL	5W
0207	WE6W	569	CA	ED	5W
0208	K0MP	559	CO	BILL	5W
0209	K10J	559	TX	OJ	5W
0210	W6ABC	599	CA	JACK	5W
0211	N1LN	559	TX	BRUCE	5W
0213	W5SB	559	TX	BILL	5W
0214	N4ROA	559	VA	DAN	5W
0215	W5YR	559	TX	GEO	5W
0216	K7RE	559	AZ	BRIAN	5W
0217	K5AAR	559	OK	DON	5W
0218	N2WW	559	CO	LARRY	5W
0218	WA7SPY	559	CA	GLENN	5W
0219	AA7EQ	559	AZ	BOB	5W
0221	NK7M	599	AZ	BOB	5W
0223	AC5JH	449	OK	TOM	5W

0224	W4NJK	599	CA	CHARLIE	5W
0224	N1FN	559	CO	ET	5W
0225	N4S0	559	AL	KEN	5W
0227	W0CH	559	MO	DAVE	5W
0228	K4FB	559	FL	PAUL	5W
0229	W8SFF	559	MI	STEVE	5W
0230	K0FRP	579	CO	ALAN	5W
0231	K5VUU	559	TX	ED	5W
0233	N6WG	579	CA	BOB	5W
0234	W0JOE	559	MO	JOE	5W
0236	VE6JAZ	559	AB	ROB	5W
0237	K7FD	559	OR	JOHN	5W
0239	N5ZE	559	TX	LEN	5W
0240	W9XT	559	WI	GARY	5W
0241	AA5UN	599	TX	MARTIN	5W
0242	K0QD	559	CO	HUGH	5W
0243	K8CV	559	MI	WALT	5W
0246	N5GLQ	559	LA	MIKE	5W
0247	W0RW	579	CO	PAUL	5W
0248	KB7WW	559	OR	ART	5W
0249	K0PC	559	MN	PAT	5W
0250	KQ5U	559	TX	TERRY	5W
0251	K0UR	559	MN	JIM	5W
0252	WB8ICN	579	MI	MIKE	5W
0253	WA9TZE	559	WI	JIM	5W
0254	WE9K	559	WI	GLENN	5W
0255	WA50JE	559	TX	DANNY	5W
0256	N5EN	559	TX	STEVE	5W
0257	W9XU	559	WI	LON	5W
0258	N0TU	599	CO	STEVE	5W
0259	N8IE	559	OH	DAN	5W
0300	N9AW	559	WI	JERRY	5W
0300	AF4PS	559	FL	MAC	4W
0301	N1TP	559	FL	TOM	5W
0305	N7XY	599	WA	BOB	5W
0307	KD7CTF	599	OR	LEE	5W
0308	NK9G	559	WI	RICK	5W
0309	W0UFO	559	MN	BILL	5W
0310	WA7TQK	559	ID	BILL	5W
0313	KK7GG	559	OR	MIKE	5W
0316	K9IUA	339	ND	KEVIN	5W
0318	W8PIG	559	OH	DAN	5W
0319	KB7LJP	559	OR	JAMES	5W
0321	W2XN	559	FL	FRED	5W
0322	N5WL	559	OK	BART	5W
0324	NY3M	559	MD	BILL	5W
0325	N0EHW	559	MO	TIM	5W
0326	KR5C	559	TX	GEORGE	4 W

0327	KI0II	599	CO	RON	5W
0330	K5DW	559	TX	DON	5W
0330	K5OHL	559	OK	JIM	5W
0331	W0PWE	559	IA	JERRY	5W
0333	W0RSP	559	SD	ADE	4W
0334	N0AR	559	MN	SCOTT	4W
0335	AB0CD	559	CO	DICK	5W
0336	KC0EPD	559	MO	LORA	5W
0337	WS4S	329	TN	CONARD	5W
0339	KJ0C	559	CO	JIM	5W
0342	N5TW	599	TX	TOM	5W
0343	K5JHP	339	TX	BILL	5W
0356	N8VAR	229	OH	RON	5W
0358	W5USJ	339	TX	CHUCK	4W
0000	NK6A		FOX	5W	

--

Don Minkoff - NK6A

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:16:14 -0700
 From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
 To: <ac7a@gci-net.com>, qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
 Subject: [85972] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease
 Message-ID: <B659329D.413D%jamesd1@flash.net>
 Mime-version: 1.0
 Content-type: text/plain; charset="ISO-8859-1"
 Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Thomas - Actually boiling it is not that bad an idea. If you can find somebody with an ultrasonic cleaner that would be willing to put your capacitor in it that is the best way to clean it.

Short of that, I would try using isopropyl alcohol in a syringe or squirt bottle to clean the dried grease out of the bearings. If that doesn't work =
 I
 would go to progressively stronger solvents. Trichloroethylene comes to mind. In the old days, one would use carbon tetrachloride, but that can be quite dangerous (carcenogenic) to use without proper handling techniques and
 a good hood.=20

I suppose some of the proprietary cleaners that come in an aerosol can would
 also do the job. I would avoid those that have a lubricant in addition to the solvent.=20

Resist the temptation to turn the capacitor after it is cleaned, but before it is greased, as that may score the bearings. Lubriplate=81 is a good, but not optimum replacement lubricant. I think TriFlow=81, a Teflon=81 based lubricant, would probably be better. A good bike shop should also be able to suggest a good lubricant. One used for a headset or crank set lubricant should be good for the capacitor.

I suppose that this new tuner will take the place of the old one you have brought to Tuthill the past few years? I believe you built that one as a Novice. Passing of an era and all that. Keep in touch. - Dr. Megacycle
Kk6MC/5 =20

--=20

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:16:49 -0500
From: jmarran@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85973] Winter SSB Contest award (QRP ARCI)
Message-ID: <20001210.151655.-872409.0.jmarran@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Friends:

After getting back from Corning NY on a business trip, I was shocked when I opened my mail to find I had won 1st place New York in the Winter SSB Sprint, sponsored by the ARCI. What a thrill! I can't wait for the next 'test. Just had to say thanks to all that worked me in FEBRUARY!

Best Wishes this Holiday Season!!!!

John Marranca Jr
KB2HSH
Buffalo, NY

Ten Tec Powermite pictorial gallery.....

<http://homestead.juno.com/jmarran/kb2hsh.html>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 12:19:16 -0800 (PST)

From: hgruen@pacifier.com (Huston Gruen)

To: Barry Tepperman <griffin3350@yahoo.com>

Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [85974] Re: Pocket PC

Message-ID: <200012102019.MAA22227@smtp.pacifier.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Barry

Thanks for the input. I didn't know about these sources and I appreciate it. I'll download them and start playing. Sounds like it's an area that someone who programs and is a ham could sure contribute a great deal to the hobby. Again, thanks.

Huston

>Huston:

>

>Been looking for the same thing. CSS Software (the company that does
>the terminal software for AEA-Timewave) has a free version of Pakratt
>for Windows CE available for download from their site. There is an
>article in the September 1998 QST about running packet from a Sharp
>4100 Mobilon using the built-in software.

>

>That aside, the best prospect I have found is PC-CE/PC-XT which is
>available from winfiles.com. This is a shareware emulator for an old
>PC-XT that runs on Windows CE machines to allow you to load and run DOS
>programs. The emulator and DOS seem to work fine on my Sharp Tripad -
>but I have found it only in the last week and have not had a chance to
>try out any DOS software under it.

>

>If you get any other leads, I would be grateful if you would share
>them. Have been hoping to post some of this information on my own web
>site once I get to actually check out how PC-CE works with some of the
>DOS ham shareware that's available.

>
>72 73 es tnX
>Barry AC4US
>
>
>-----
>Do You Yahoo!?
>Yahoo! Shopping - Thousands of Stores. Millions of Products.
><http://shopping.yahoo.com/>
>
>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:23:57 -0700
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: k9iua@juno.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85975] Re: FOX HISTORY- The 1994/1995 Foxhunt - Complete Logs!
Message-ID: <3A3383ED.10144.6B569E@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Hi, Kevin--

Thanks VERY much for digging out the traffic on the first hunts. I don't know if you were aware of this but my own interest is in creating an official "record book" on the foxhunt web site. So the last part of your extract had exactly what I wanted.

I hope somebody will dig out the following years-- or at least the final results. I'd do it myself if I had the CD but don't even know where to get it [g].

Thanks again...

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Millennium...

Marshall Emm, N1FN
Milestone Technologies, Inc.
(303) 752-3382
<http://www.mtechnologies.com>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:26:23 -0500 (EST)

From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [85976] psk/flexible digital mode interface
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012101507420.527-100000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I just made my first psk qso :)) Ea7kf. This mode is really cool.
Kudos to the guys working on the software end of this stuff.

I am using the flexible Digital mode interface from November qst 2000
I had to make a few modifications to suit my situation. I am using a Yaesu
FT1000D. All connections were made with one plug in DIN connector (I
purchased the plug at radio shack, It had one extra pin that I pulled off
with pliers)... at the back of the Yaesu DVS2 port. I made the following
changes to the board.

I didn't use the relay or power supply input components. I didn't use the
led indicator. I used q1 to drive the dvs2 ptt line. From the RTS line I
also controlled DVS2 CNTRL1 and CNTRL2 lines tied together. Keying these
with the ptt line disconnects the microphone and speaker from the
transceiver and lets the mic input from the DVS2 line. I had trouble
gettin audio to the mic input on DVS2 so I went directly from SC line out
to mike input and controlled the level very easily with the sound card
volume at the bottom of the windows screen.

The unit is powered completely by the Serial port. All solid state
switching via RTS and a 2n2222A. I used the board as supplied by FAR
circuits. All of the parts were junk box variety.

Now I have to read the Digipan help files to figure this bugger out :)

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:29:48 -0500
From: "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85977] Re: Need homebrew data.
Message-ID: <08e701c062e7\$f1f7f320\$f8384d0c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Alex, I don't know where on the web you can find the Motorola data but I have an old set of their reference manuals that I use.

As far as the matching crystals are concerned I believe that it is too critical to making a narrow filter to trust to some one else doing the testing. If I got matched crystals I would check them too as you have no assurance as to what tolerance was used and even the heat from your fingers will change the results. I have matched 50 or 60 crystals so I have a pretty good idea about this. A rough guess is that you will need 3 times the number used in the filter. Remember that the BFO & TX CXR can use the ones that you kick out of the filter testing as most designs include means to zero them. This is a good buddy project as you will certainly get at least enough 2 filters and he can use the second set. Another reason to get involved in a local QRP club.

Mike Branca W3IRZ in Conyers Georgia

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:49:25 -0500
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us>
Subject: [85978] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question
Message-ID: <003901c062ea\$bacf7000\$010044c0@baycty1.mi.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tom, this is a tough question subject to a lot of 'religious' interpretation <g>

----- Original Message -----
From: "Tom" <tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us>
Subject: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question

> My question then is, would it be feasible to place some sort of a screen
> down on the ground to act as the radial? This might be something like a
> square piece of chicken wire or perhaps an old piece of chain link fence.

Assuming you are speaking of a ground mounted vertical...

Some sort of screen on the ground, or slightly beneath the ground, is close to an ideal counterpoise for a vertical. In a perfect world, it would be circular, with the antenna at its center, with an infinite radius. Well,

OK, large compared to the wavelength in question is close enough to infinite.

A lot of folks swear by radials, preferably as many of them as possible this approximating your chicken wire, with a length of 1/4 wavelength. My own experience is that this doesn't matter a hill of beans, but a lot of folks are convinced it does.

I think George kind of explained why people's mileage may vary, tho. If the ground is nice and conductive, all you need to do is get good coupling between the counterpoise and the ground, and the ground becomes the counterpoise. Sometimes, merely sticking a metal stake in the ground is good enough. More likely, tho, you will need a fair bit of copper to get the desired coupling. What you are doing is building a huge capacitor.

So to summarize what I am saying, a very large screen, say with a radius of several wavelengths, will pretty much always work quite well. A screen of a quarter wave in radius will usually work. Less will sometimes work - it all depends on your ground.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://members.home.com/wb8rcr/index.htm>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:41:11 -0600
From: "Mike Duke" <k5xu@concentric.net>
To: "qrp" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85979] 10 Meter Contest
Message-ID: <000c01c062f2\$085575c0\$11320140@k5xu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just spent about 20 minutes within 15 kHz either side of 28.060.

Using the search and pounce technique, I bagged 10 states with a few duplicates, plus two VP5's, a ZV8, and a VE5.

This was done with my TS-570 at 5 watts to an end fed wire from my apartment.

AH for a real antenna!

Mike Duke, President,

Mississippi Council of the Blind and
ACB Radio Amateurs

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 16:46:21 -0500
From: Duffer <hduff@ica.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [85980] HW-9 value ??
Message-ID: <3A33F9AD.9820104A@ica.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Can anyone tell me what a clean HW-9 with the WARC bands is going for these days ? No mods, an easy 9.5 out of 10.
Please cc me direct by email.
Cheers de Hugh VA3T0

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 13:54:38 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85981] Re: 4:1 balun.
Message-ID: <3A33FB9E.E54066EB@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a HP8505A Network Analyzer with matching
S-Parameter test set. -Ed

"Karl F. Larsen" wrote:

> Hi Ed, Windings on new toroid material can be quite loose without any
> problems. But I'm interested in how you measured the return loss. How did
> you do that?
>
> On Sat, 9 Dec 2000, Ed Loranger wrote:
>
> > Gang, in repairing a 4:1 balun I decided to
> > wind it a bit better.
> >
> > It measures -20 dB return loss from

> > 2.8 to 88 MHz and -17 dB return loss
> > from 1.8 to 100 MHz.
> >
> > Is this typical?
> >
> > --
> > 72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
> > <http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
> > My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.
> >
> >
> > -----
> > Why pay for something you could get for free?
> > NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
> > <http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>
> >
> >
>
> Yours Truly,
>
> - Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

--
72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

Why pay for something you could get for free?
NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:59:13 -0600
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: <k5xu@concentric.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85982] Re: 10 Meter Contest
Message-ID: <00e501c062f4\$71164100\$0100a8c0@dandooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gee, Mike. Sounds to me like you already have a "real antenna." You did good on 10 meters.

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku
e-mail to: dandoooley@pipeline.com
Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>
SOC #198, FPQRP # -104
May Goddes love blest ye alle
"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

----- Original Message -----

From: "Mike Duke" <k5xu@concentric.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2000 3:41 PM
Subject: 10 Meter Contest

> I just spent about 20 minutes within 15 kHz either side of 28.060.
>
> Using the search and pounce technique, I bagged 10 states with a few
> duplicates, plus two VP5's, a ZV8, and a VE5.
>
> This was done with my TS-570 at 5 watts to an end fed wire from my
> apartment.
>
> AH for a real antenna!
>
> Mike Duke, President,
> Mississippi Council of the Blind and
> ACB Radio Amateurs
>

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 16:07:15 -0600
From: "Jerry Scherkenbach" <jerrys@execpc.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85983] FOX: Operation by N9AW on Tuesday, 12/12/2000
Message-ID: <019801c062f5\$8e5ddec0\$2f83cfa9@Pjerrys>

I will be the FOX Tuesday night local time, 12/12/2000, from 9p-11p EST,
8p-10p CST, 7p-9p MST and 6p-8p PST. My ears are already up listening for
the anticipated roar of the hounds. It will be fun, please catch me if you
can.

Location: Hales Corners, WI (near Milwaukee)

Transmit frequency: 7040.7 plus or minus 1 kHz. (The digital signals have been quite bad lately but this frequency sounds pretty clean in my area.)

Listening frequency - up .5 to 2 kHz. Please spread out. (AND NOT ON MY XMIT FREQUENCY PLEASE)

I will move closer to my transmit frequency when the pile-up dies down and also late in the hunt for those with no or limited RIT/XIT.

Please call once and send your exchange once. I will ask for fills if needed.

Code speed: I will QRS as the hunt goes on and as needed.

Exchange: <your call> 559 WI Jerry 5W

Equipment will be:

FT1000MP at 5 watts

Two 40 mtr Delta Loops (one NE-SW, the other NW-SE)

72

Jerry N9AW

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 17:31:58 EST

From: Drbob92031@aol.com

To: tmccullo@suffolk.lib.ny.us, qrp-1@lehigh.edu

Subject: [85984] Re: Elmer: Vertical Antenna Question

Message-ID: <21.4b6daeb.27655e5e@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tom;

I have had the same situation here (I Think). I am in a development that does not permit outdoor antennas. SO as a good ham I have one. Out doors. I am using a mobile antenna that is a 15 M antenna. I have added a telescoping replacement antenna to the top of the 15 M whip. As far as the radials. I took some old telephone cline I had lying in the junk box and cut it for the "other half" of the 20 M dipole. I cut three of these and they just lie on the ground when I am going to to use the rig. The extension of the whip with the telescoping antenna gets the 15 M mobile ant. on to 20 M with no problem.

I have the mobile ground mounted next to an 8 foot tree so its is not too noticeable, To ground mount it I took a PVC pipe about 1 foot long and Hammered it into the ground. As I did this I removed it very few inches and got the dirt out of the PVC pipe. At the finish I had a hole in the ground that accepted the PVC very firmly. I then attached a wooden dowel to the base of the mobile and held it there with a hose clamp. The dowel went into the PVC pipe. This way the mobile ant. was held vertical and not grounded. I attached the center of my coax to the hose clamp and the radials to the braid and just laid them on the ground.

I work 20 m with no problem.

As fat as using the fence; I would approach it the same way. Affix the mobile ant. to the fence (insulated from it) and attach the braid to the fence.

Coats nothing so its worth the try.

72/73.de WA2EAW.Bob

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:34:14 -0700
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: qrp-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [85985] Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <B65952F5.4145%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

The recent discussion on loops led to several posts that were not quite "right". The comments on balanced line always being lower loss than coax fed antennas was one such post. Some one also posted exact numbers to illustrate this "fact".

While balanced feeders have lower loss than coax into a matched load, there can be exceptions to the general rule of thumb that balanced feeders always have lower loss than coax. In particular, for single band resonant antennas I think the choice between coax and balanced line feeders is a wash.

Consider a 40 M dipole erected at a height where the impedance is 50 ohms. This is about 0.25 wavelengths or a bit less depending on the ground conditions. That is about 30 feet which is a height at which many of us have dipoles erected. Lets feed the antenna with 100 ft of feed line.

The window line will have an SWR of 9:1. If we use RG-213 at 50 Ohms we will be operating at an SWR of 1:1. The matched loss of 450 Ohm line when clean and dry is 0.16 dB or so at 7 MHz as given by Stewart in Antenna Compendium 6. The additional loss due to the 9:1 SWR in the 450 Ohm ladder line is about 0.5 dB. This amounts to a total loss of 0.65 dB or so in the feed line system.

At 7 MHz, RG-213 has a matched loss of 0.56 dB. So, at least for this example, the difference between window line and coax is a wash.

But we need to consider the whole system. The balanced line feeder will require a tuner, the coax fed system will not, if trimmed for resonance. Bob Kellogg has spent a lot of time measuring antenna tuner efficiencies, and 90% is a good figure. This will add an additional loss of 0.4 dB or so to the balanced feeder case. So the total loss is even greater with the ladder line and coax doesn't look so bad.

Of course balanced feeders look better as one goes up in frequency, coax looks better as the frequency goes down. At 160 M I could do the same comparison and RG-58 would look pretty good. On 10 M even RG-213 starts to look bad. Going to the foam dielectric coax helps.

Now balanced feeders come into their own when feeding a dipole on multiple bands. If I were to repeat the above calculations for 20 M operation of a 40 M dipole the balanced feeder would look better. Much better. But I can parallel a 20 M dipole with a 40 M dipole fed with RG-213 and end up with similar losses. On higher frequencies the balanced feeder will be better, even if I parallel dipoles.

There are other trade offs. The ladder line loss will soar when it is wet. Stewart quotes a wet number of 6.1 dB for a matched condition!! When trying to match the 40 M dipole example above the total loss of the balanced feeder will be 3.5 dB! While we don't need to worry about that much in New Mexico it might be a problem in the Olympic Peninsula!

Balanced feeders generally cost less than coax, but the cost of a tuner required for balanced feeders offsets this.

So if your are erecting an antenna for a single band or two harmonically related bands, I think that there is little to chose from between good coax and good window line to feed the antenna.

Force shields up. - Dr. Megacycle KK6MC

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 15:44:41 -0700
From: Thomas Kuehl <ac7a@gci-net.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "jamesd1@flash.net" <jamesd1@flash.net>, nb6m@aol.com, n4xy@att.net,

lew@paceley.com
Subject: [85986] Cap Bearing De-greasing
Message-ID: <3A340759.A6C997C5@gci-net.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

First of all, thanks to everyone who responded to my question about de-greasing the bearing of an old variable capacitor. All of your suggestions are appreciated, and the "now clean" capacitor will find a home in my new tuner.

I ended up trying Wayne's (NB6M) idea. He suggested using "break parts" cleaner. It worked so well that I though I would pass on exactly what I used: Valvoline, Synpower, non-chlorinated, Brake Parts Cleaner, from Walmart. It comes with a thin nozzle that connects right to the top cap, and stores there using a smart, right-angle rotary joint arrangement. This cleaner is the low VOC stuff so it isn't quite as hard on the environment.

The nozzle and spray were directed right at the shaft and bearing, while a small acid brush was used to scrub away the old grease. It removed it completely and also any other accumulated grime. I may have got a bit carried away by how well it was working, and ended up cleaning the entire capacitor and my roller inductor as well! The plates are all nice and clean and the ceramic is a clean white.

It may have not been necessary, but I rinsed the capacitor in denatured alcohol after the cleaning. It didn't seem to make any difference, other than removing the slight automotive cleaner scent left by the brake cleaner. I then used some Lubriplate grease to re-grease the bearings.

Now on to building the tuner!

Regards, Thomas - AC7A

PS - Not affiliated in any manner with Walmart, Valvoline, or Lubriplate; just a simple-minded consumer of what they have to offer.

Date: Sun, 10 Dec 2000 16:58:49 -0600
From: "pschweitzer" <pschweitzer@netzero.net>
To: <jamesd1@flash.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [85987] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <007e01c062fc\$c424ca80\$6c4f0404@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

well

it is interesting to see one posting that I agree with on this topic.
I found through trial and error that for simplicities sake coax to a
resonant dipole beat a multi band dipole configuration with open balanced
feeders.

I did have the opportunity to use a multi band loop an I did not like how it
performed.

I currently run psk 31 on 1 watt through a resonant system and seem to do
very well when there are 50 and 100 watt stations on the mode.

ka0pgq
rob

----- Original Message -----

From: James R. Duffey <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, December 10, 2000 4:34 PM
Subject: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed

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>

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